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NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Marsha Kitagawa (808) 539-4909 For Media Release: November 21, 2002

Comment Wanted on Proposal to Amend Hawai'i Rules of Civil Procedure

The Supreme Court of Hawaii seeks public comment about a proposal from the Permanent Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure and the Circuit Court Civil Rules Committee to amend Rule 4(a) of the Hawai`i Rules of Civil Procedure.

The proposal would require a plaintiff, rather than the court clerk, to deliver the summons and complaint to a person authorized to serve process. Proposed Rule 4(a) provides as follows (deleted material is bracketed and new material is underlined):

RULE 4. PROCESS.

(a) Summons: Issuance. Upon the filing of the complaint the clerk shall forthwith issue a summons. [and deliver it for service] Plaintiff shall deliver the complaint and summons to a person authorized to serve process. Upon request of the plaintiff separate or additional summons shall issue against any defendants.

Comments about the proposed rule amendment should be submitted in writing no later than February 18, 2003 to the Judiciary Public Affairs Office, 417 South King Street, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813.

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